

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the outstanding Office action. Claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10-33 are presented herewith for consideration. Claims 4 and 9 have been cancelled. At least claims 5, 11-12, 14, 18, 21-23, 25 and 27 have been amended to correct grammatical/typographical errors or dependency. Claims 1, 10 and 29-33 have also been amended.

Claims 25-28 are allowed.

Independent claims 14 and 18 are objected to because of containing informalities. As suggested by the Examiner, claims 14 and 18 have been amended and it is therefore respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 14-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. As suggested by the Examiner, claims 14 and 18 have been amended. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 14-24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and thus claims 14-24 are believed allowable.

Claims 4, 5, 10 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 13 and 29-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,572,558 ("Beherns"). Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of presently cancelled claim 4 and claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of previously presented claims 1 and 9. Therefore, claims 1-3 and 5-13 are believed allowable.

Claims 29, 30 and 33 have been amended to include limitations similar to the limitations in allowed claim 25 and therefore are believed allowable.

Therefore claims 29-33 are believed allowable.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Beherns. Claim 11 depends from claim 10 and is believed allowable for at least the reasons stated above in regard to claim 10.

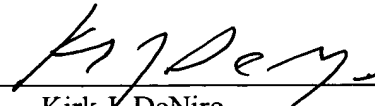
Based on the above amendments and these remarks, reconsideration of claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10-33 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should further questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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